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practice

LINKS



Continuing professional development



4th Biennial International Symposium

Decisions, Assessment, Risk and Evidence in Social Work

Tue 05 & Wed 06 July 2016
Templeton Hotel, Templepatrick, Northern Ireland
(convenient to Belfast International Airport)

Plenary Speakers:

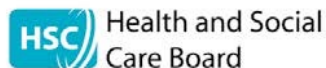
Professor Dr Gerd Gigerenzer is Director of the Harding Center for Risk Literacy and Director of the Center for Adaptive Behavior and Cognition (ABC) at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, Germany, where he leads world-leading research on heuristic models of decision making.

Dr John Fluke is Associate Director of Systems Research & Evaluation, and Associate Professor at the Kempe Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, University of Colorado, USA. He is internationally recognized as a researcher specializing in assessing and analyzing decision-making particularly in child welfare and mental health services for children.

Professor Mandeep K. Dhami, PhD is Professor of Decision Psychology at Middlesex University, London. She is an expert on decision-making, risk and uncertainty, particularly within the criminal justice sector.

Further information on DARE 2016 including a call for abstracts will be added to our website over the coming months: www.socsci.ulster.ac.uk/irss/dare2016/. If you would like your name to be added to the list for publicity please email: **Mrs Sharon Lucas** at: dare@ulster.ac.uk.

This fourth DARE symposium builds on the third symposium in July 2014 which brought together 125 delegates from eleven countries including senior practitioners, managers, policy makers, researchers and those in education and training.



Supported by the Institute for Research in
Social Science at Ulster University

Dear colleagues, Places are filling up fast, but there is still time to register for the Decisions, Assessment, Risk and Evidence in Social Work conference near Belfast 05 & 06 July. International plenary speakers from USA and Germany. Participants presenting from Belgium, Croatia, England, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Sweden... Contact dare@ulster.ac.uk or see the website: <http://www.socsci.ulster.ac.uk/irss/dare2016/>

SYMPOSION

Things of Darkness: An Exploration of Human Violence

A one-day seminar with Dr. Gwen Adshead

"This thing of darkness, I acknowledge mine."

From: 'The Tempest': Act 5, Scene 1, Shakespeare (1611)

Saturday 3 September 2016, 9.30am - 4.30pm, River Lee Hotel, Western Road, Cork

Cost: €90.00 - CPD Hours: 5.5

This event is designed to illuminate why human beings can be dangerous, murderous, or perverse and draws on Dr. Adshead's long-standing and extensive experience of working therapeutically with perpetrators of violence and cruelty. It is also an opportunity for non-forensic professionals, who nevertheless encounter acts of violence, aggression and sadism in their clinical work, to both contextualise their work and consider strategies for dealing with those dynamics.

Human violence is a perplexing problem, and seems to be immutable. Yet, there is evidence that rates of violent crime are falling in developed societies and acts of violence are a statistically unusual way to break the criminal law. Even so, it is also clear that the human capacity for cruelty is active and persistent in society.

In this one-day seminar, Dr. Adshead will discuss academic material, facilitate discussion and present clinical material from work with violence perpetrators. She will explore the concepts of violence and evil at both the macro level of societies and institutions, and at the micro level of the individual. She will begin with a discussion of the nature of violence and include a discussion of the term 'evil' and how it relates to what is known about human violence. She will outline the psychological and psychiatric state of mind that are known to make acts of violence and evil more likely, and discuss how mental health services respond to perpetrators of violence and cruelty. Included in her presentation will be a discussion of antisocial personality disorder and the concept of psychopathy. Dr. Adshead will conclude with a discussion about therapeutic interventions for perpetrators of violence, focussing on her own experience of working with people who have killed. She will also facilitate a discussion about clinical material from those who are participating, with a particular emphasis on the counter-transferential aspects of the work. In this regard, Dr. Adshead will encourage participants to bring their own stories of violence - and hope - to stimulate lively discussion.

Dr. Gwen Adshead is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist, Psychotherapist and Group Analyst. She is currently Gresham Professor of Psychiatry in London and a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist at Ravenswood House (a secure unit in Hampshire for persons with serious mental illness, personality disorder and/or a forensic history). Dr. Adshead trained at St George's Hospital, the Institute of Psychiatry and the Institute of Group Analysis in London. Having qualified in medicine in 1983, she was elected a member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1987 before being made a Fellow in 2005. For fifteen years she worked at Broadmoor Hospital where she ran psychotherapeutic groups for offenders, as well as working with staff and organisational dynamics. In her role as both a forensic psychiatrist and psychotherapist, she has tried to understand the psychological mechanisms that give rise to violence and life-threatening behaviour toward others. Dr. Adshead holds a Master's Degree in Medical Law and Ethics and a Master's Degree in Mindfulness based Cognitive Therapy. Her research interests include moral reasoning in psychopaths and antisocial men and how psychotherapies work with violent people. She has published a number of books and over 100 academic papers. She is a regular commentator on TV and radio in the UK. Dr. Adshead is a founder member of the International Association of Forensic Psychotherapy and was Chairman of the Ethics Committee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists for 5 years. She is registered with the Law Society as an Expert Witness and approved under Section 12 of the Mental Health Act as having special experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorder. In 2013 she was awarded the Jochelson visiting professorship at Yale School of Law & Psychiatry and later that year was awarded the President's Medal for her work in ethics in mental health.

Who should attend? This seminar is relevant for psychotherapists, psychologists, counsellors and psychiatrists as well as professionals whose work brings them into close proximity with people who either commit acts of violence, or people who have endured acts of violence (such as, for example, social workers, probation officers, prison officers). A CPD Certificate will be supplied to all participants.

For further details and bookings, please go to www.symposion.ie

<http://www.symposion.ie>

Continuing professional development



Mentalization-Based Treatment (MBT): Fostering in Cork (Ireland)

Dates:

29th September 2016 – 30th September 2016 Day 3 will take place on 24th November 2016

Location:

The Bessborough Centre, Cork (Ireland) MapLength:3 days (2+1 day)Times:09:30 - 16:30

Tutors:

Alistair Cooper
Dr Sheila Redfern

About this course

We have developed a new approach to working with children and young people in foster care (called MBT-Fostering), to try and support their emotional wellbeing more effectively. MBT-Fostering aims to promote the quality of relationships, support effective and sensitive foster care, and help carers to help the child in their care understand and manage emotions better. The focus is on improving the core components of secure attachment, including collaboration, and parental (or carer) reflective capacity. The MBT-Fostering approach pays particular attention to developing reflective practice for all professionals working with LAC.



This course is designed specifically for fostering social workers working in Local Authority services for looked after children and social workers in fostering agencies. The course introduces social workers to a model for working with foster parents using mentalization. The emphasis is on helping social workers support foster carers to mentalize the children they are caring for.

The course introducing specific parenting techniques associated with a mentalizing stance, to enhance foster parents' confidence as well as to bring a reduction in difficult and aggressive behaviours. Fostering social workers will be asked to practise techniques in small groups.

The third day of training in May will focus on a discussion of reflective practise and how social workers have applied the principles taught in the course to their practise with parents, children and young people. The discussion will focus on finding out what were the more helpful elements of MBT.

Who is this course suitable for?

The course is suitable for fostering social workers in Local Authorities or Fostering Agencies. It would work particularly well where managers want to train up a whole team in a mentalizing approach. Local Authority Looked After Children Services may wish to initiate participation in the training for groups of foster parents following care proceedings.

Aims of the course?

To introduce a mentalizing stance to fostering social workers and those working with LAC in order to help stabilize placements and help manage the emotional and behavioural difficulties of children in care.

To help fostering social workers in their observations of the parent-child/young person relationship and to identify where there is a break down in mentalizing and how this impacts on the emotional wellbeing and behavior of the young person.

To allow teams to bring clinical case material after they have applied the principles of MBT and discuss how the model was helpful.

Booking

For further information about this training in Cork and in order to book please follow the link below.

<https://mentalizationbasedtreatment.eventbrite.ie>

Training fee:

850 euro or 750 euro if booked by 30th June.



Expressive Play are delighted to announce that Dr. Bruce Perry, one of the world's leading experts on neurobiology and trauma will be visiting Ireland for the first time and presenting a Conference on:

Child Trauma & Neglect **Impact, Assessment** **and Therapeutic Intervention**



By Renowned International Expert Dr. Bruce Perry

The Rose Hotel, Dan Spring Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry
30th September 2016 at 9.30am to 4.00pm

This conference is approved for CPD by the Irish Psychiatry Association, IASW, IACP and IAPTP. Prior Booking Essential

Enquiries to : expressiveplayconference@gmail.com

Continuing professional development

Certificate in Drugs Counselling Theory & Intervention Skills – CORK (NFQ Level 7) 2016-2017

Merchants Quay Ireland in conjunction with University College Dublin is pleased to offer a **Certificate in Drugs Counselling Theory and Intervention Skills**. This unique and innovative course empowers participants to respond more effectively to the issues of drug use and addiction.

STUDENTS: This course is for anyone with a serious interest in the area of substance use and who interacts on either a paid or voluntary capacity with people who may have drug or alcohol related problems. Lectures are delivered by both academics and by experienced practitioners in the area of drugs and addiction.

All students who receive the Certificate are eligible to register for the **Diploma in Drugs Counselling Theory & Intervention Skills in Dublin**.

Venue: CIT, Cork School of Music, Union Quay, Cork.
2 Days at University College Dublin, Belfield Campus, Dublin 4.

Schedule: September 2016 to May 2017; part-time over one academic year of three semesters and a mandatory 35 hour work placement in a drugs agency setting.

Cork Certificate: Thursday Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Cost: €2449.00

Awarded by: National University of Ireland (University College Dublin)

How to apply: Course application forms can be downloaded from:
<https://www.mqi.ie/training/certificate-diploma-courses>

Closing date: Closing date for receipt of applications for the Cork Certificate is Friday July 1st 2016. Successful applicants will be required to attend an interview in July 2016 for Cork course. Places will be offered to candidates subject to successful interview. The course will commence on September 15th 2016.

More Information: For further information and application forms please contact Gerry Raftery at 087-9841821 or email ger.raftery@gmail.com or access our website at: www.mqi.ie

Continuing professional development

The logo for 'Child Care in Practice' features the text in white on a blue rectangular background with a green wavy line on the right side.The logo for 'early years' has 'early' in grey and 'years' in yellow. Below it, the text 'the organisation for young children' is written in a smaller, grey font.

A date for your diary

***"Celebrate Diversity: Together We Make Our
World Complete"***

Saturday 15th October

***An Early Learning Conference at the Canal Court Hotel,
Newry***

This international conference is a collaborative event between Child Care in Practice journal, the Early Years Organisation and the Pasco Hernando Early Learning Coalition.

A full programme and booking details will follow soon. To register your interest in this event please contact Cait Morgan, Child Care in Practice childcareinpractice@qub.ac.uk



Continuing professional development



Irish Foster Care Association

National Conference: 14-16 October 2016

Call for workshop proposals

The Irish Foster Care Association National Conference brings together all those with an interest in foster care, including general and relative foster carers, health and social care practitioners, academics, students, teachers, policy makers, and members of the community and voluntary sector to learn together, engage in dialogue, share their experiences and best practice. This year, the conference will take place from 14 to 16 October at the Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow, Co Carlow.

Call for workshop proposals

We are seeking proposals of relevance to the conference theme for workshops that will be facilitated on Saturday 15 October. Workshops will be two hours long. Workshop facilitators view contributing to the conference as an excellent opportunity to showcase their work. IFCA offers facilitators free day-attendance to the rest of the conference on 15 October, discounted hotel accommodation and cover of travel expenses within the island of Ireland. We do not offer a fee to facilitators.

Conference theme

The conference theme is: *Strengthening Relationships – Strengthening Care*. Relationships are at the heart of effective foster care practice and have been referred to as ‘the golden thread of children’s lives’¹. The quality of the relationships that children and young people in care experience with everyone in their world is critical to their well-being and development. Also, when there are healthy relationships among the members of the team that surrounds the child or young person it supports us all to give excellent care. Self-care and self-awareness – the ways in which we maintain our relationship with ourselves – are also vital to our foster care practice. The conference will provide a space to explore all kinds of relationships in foster care and how to strengthen them.

Submission instructions

You can submit proposals by using the online form [here](#). If you have any questions, you can contact IFCA’s Learning Development Worker, Maeve Healy, at maeve.healy@ifca.ie, phone 01 4599474 or mobile 087 6555880.

Submission deadline

Please submit your proposal by Friday 15 April. You will be notified of the outcome of the selection process by Friday 20 May.

Proposal selection criteria

When reviewing the workshop proposal submissions, we will select based on the following criteria:

- The content offers a significant contribution to the purpose of the conference
- The workshop has a clear purpose and desired learning outcomes
- The workshop format is dynamic and engages those attending through participation and discussion
- The workshop provides participants with concrete ideas / models that can contribute to the development of best practice in fostering.

¹ The Care Inquiry, UK, 2013.

Continuing professional development

Masters (MSocSc) in Voluntary and Community Sector Management at University College Cork (Level 9)

Recruitment for University College Cork's Masters in Voluntary and Community Sector Management is now open. This Masters is offered to voluntary and community sector workers who have experience of project co-ordination and who would like to improve their knowledge and skills base. The course may also be of interest to public sector workers who work closely with the voluntary and community sector.

Starting in September 2016, the course is taught one day a week (Wednesday 10.00-4.30) over two years. Eight different Depts across UCC contribute 13 different modules to the programme - Applied Social Studies, Law, Management, Business Information Systems, Accounting, Economics, Government, Food Business and Development.

The cost of the programme is €3080 per annum.

Further information on this programme is available on our online prospectus at www.ucc.ie/en/CKE75, or by contacting Dr. Féilim Ó hAdhmaill, School of Applied Social Studies, on 021 490 2616 or email f.ohadhmail@ucc.ie. Applications can be made online through the Postgraduate Admissions Centre at <http://www.pac.ie>.



Training for Social Workers/Potential Practice Teachers

Ruth Murray, Fieldwork Coordinator at the School of Applied Social Studies, is organising the annual two day Fieldwork Workshop Training on Thursday and Friday August 25th and 26th 2016 in UCC. It is being run by a number of staff within the School, the UCC Disability Office and outside practitioners. It is aimed at social workers considering supervising a student in the future or social workers who have not taken a student for a while and wish to have their supervision skills reinvigorated. The two days are free. Some of the topics being covered include:

- Promoting Reflective Engagement on Placement; Social Media Use and Data Management-Issues for Practice Placement; Facilitating Empowerment of Students with Disabilities-a UCC Perspective; Transition from Classroom Learning to Practice Placement; Creating a Supervisory Relationship-the Challenges and Rewards of Teaching and Learning; Background to Social Work Training Course in the School of Applied Social Studies in UCC; Managing Induction, Supervision and Writing Reports on Students

There is an expectation that those attending will be in a position to supervise a student on placement in January or September 2017. If interested phone Ruth at 021 4903954 or email her at: r.murray@ucc.ie. If Ruth is unavailable email Jackie Connolly at: j.connolly@ucc.ie or phone Jackie (mornings only) at 021 4903546.

Places are limited and last year the biggest number ever attended. Closing date is the 29/7/2016, though early booking is advisable.

Continuing professional development

Masters in Child, Family and Community Studies

The Masters in Child, Family and Community Studies which is delivered in the School of Languages, Law and Social Sciences in DIT in Grangegorman. Please find a link here to the online brochure

<http://digitaleditions.uberflip.com/i/510975-ma-in-child-family-community-studies>

The Masters in Child, Family and Community Studies has been running since 2007 and is delivered on both a full time and a part-time basis. The Masters attracts participants from both Dublin and around the country.

Participants on this course have included graduates from Social Sciences, Social Care and Early Education as well as practitioners from youth work, community and teaching backgrounds . Participants on the programme have found it very beneficial for career development.

We will be very happy to provide any further information should any of your staff members wish to find out more.

Call for papers

Ecology & Impact of Trauma: Relational Responses to Disrupted Development *7th - 9th November 2016 Regency Airport Hotel (Whitehall), Dublin, Ireland*

We are delighted to broadcast this Call for Papers for the 3rd annual 'Unity through Relationship' International Conference, an inclusive learning & development event which builds and strengthens connections, relationships and interdisciplinary working. All who are involved in the provision of care and services to children, youth and families are welcomed, including but not limited to: front-line practitioners (social work, social care, teachers, family support staff), clinicians, educators, justice professionals, mental health staff, researchers, managers, carers and students.

Conference theme: The impact of trauma on mental health and relational responses.

We all begin our physical, mental and social development from the moment of conception, a process, which, even at that early stage, is influenced by genetic and inter-generational factors. As we travel along our life course we encounter many factors within our 'ecology' and these can impact on our development. Positive and nurturing factors augment healthy development and resilience. However, the converse is also true, negative experiences can stunt or arrest development. We refer to such deeply distressing experiences as 'trauma'. It is here that the conference has its foundation.

In 2016, the Unity conference is seeking to draw from the expert knowledge of colleagues who have particular interest in the understanding of how "disruption within ones ecology" can impact on growth and development. This includes pre-birth disruption (such as contributes to syndromes such as FASD), abuse/neglect and any other type of event which can contribute that what is seen to be a 'mental health issue'. A focus should also be on how we can optimally respond to such trauma using relational approaches.

The objectives of this 3-day conference are (within a relational framework):

- (i) to provide a forum to present thinking and share the views and practice experiences.
- (ii) to aid carers and professionals to understanding how early and inter-generational trauma can impact on the mental health needs of young people;
- (iii) to share progressive and contemporary knowledge, with a focus on a relational response.

At this time we are sending out a ***call for papers*** seeking applications to contribute to the conference. If you have an idea you would like to propose or want some help with the application process, we will be happy to provide support. This conference will be innovative, programmatic, participative, comparative, critical and empowering.

We are also seeking expressions of interest from prospective presenters who may have associated 1 or 2 days trainings which they would be willing to deliver on the Thursday 10th and Friday 11th as part of a suite of trainings related to the conference theme being made available as we have done in each of the previous events. This has proven to be an excellent opportunity to make available innovative trainings that may otherwise not be accessible and thereby positively influence practice. It is also an opportunity for professionals to make available trainings that they may be in the process of developing.

Application forms are available from and must be completed and returned to: info@empowerireland.com prior to 16th May 2016

WEBSITE: www.unitythroughrelationship.com

New publications and policy reports

Choices for Equity and Sustainability – Securing Solidarity and the Common Good Seán Healy, Sara Bourke, Ann Leahy, Eamon Murphy, Michelle Murphy, and Brigid Reynolds (April 2016)

This is Social Justice Ireland's Annual Socio-Economic Review for 2016.

In this publication *Social Justice Ireland* sets out its analysis of the current situation in five key areas : (i) vibrant economy; (ii) decent services and infrastructure; (iii) just taxation; (iv) good governance and (v) sustainability. This publication also sets out viable pathways towards building a fair and just society that can deliver equity and sustainability for all.

Link to the review: <http://www.socialjustice.ie/sites/default/files/attach/publication/4310/entire.pdf>

Better Health, Improving Healthcare by the Department of Health (May 2016)

“Better Health, Improving Health Care” is a strategic briefing document prepared by the Department for the incoming Minister for Health, in advance of the publication of the Programme for Government. It sets out some strategic considerations to inform the task of developing a clear and coherent agenda for action to improve the health service.

Link to the briefing document: <http://health.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Better-Health-Improving-Health-Care.pdf>

The Social Work Action Network Ireland Bulletin (June 2016)

The Social Work Action Network Ireland bulletin, “Frontline” has just been published. Issue 2, June 2016, is attached. Please read it and share far and wide. We would also love to hear from you about the articles you read and would also love to receive any of your articles for future editions! Our email is: socialworkactionnetworkireland@gmail.com. Thanks, from the *Frontline Editorial Collective (FEC)*

Link to bulletin: <https://socialworkactionnetworkireland.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/frontline-issue-2-june-20161.pdf>

Neoliberalism: Oversold? By Jonathan D. Ostry, Prakash Loungani, and Davide Furceri (June 2016)

Instead of delivering growth, some neoliberal policies have increased inequality, in turn jeopardising durable expansion.

Link to article: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2016/06/pdf/ostry.pdf>

New publications and policy reports

The New Politics Research Agenda Workshop Report by Daniel Chavez (May 2016)

Researchers and activists from fifteen countries met in Amsterdam with the aim to jointly draft the research agenda of the New Politics Project, a decentralised think tank on counter-hegemonic politics. It will aim to boost the development of desirable, viable and achievable alternatives, transcending current oppressive and exploitative structures; acknowledge the diversity of knowledge as a source of inspiration for the co-creation of alternatives; and promote fruitful collaboration and exchanges among researchers and activists from different regions of the world.

Link to the report: https://www.tni.org/files/publication-downloads/new_politics_workshop_report-1.pdf

Interim Standards for New Directions, Services and Supports for Adults with Disabilities by HSE (published in April 2016)

The HSE ratified the Interim Standards in 2015 and the following steps will be taken in 2016 to progress implementation using an approach of continuous quality improvement:

- A Communication Strategy to launch the Interim Standards will be developed.
- An Easy to Read Interim Standards document will be developed.
- A methodology will be developed for service providers to assess their services against the Standards with a view to developing and implementing quality improvement plans.

Bottom of Form

Link to the interim standards: <http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/disability/newdirections/Interim-Standards-for-New-Directions-Services-and-Supports-for-Adults-with-Disabilities.pdf>

Sexual health and sexuality education needs assessment of young people in care in Ireland (SENYPIC): composite report of findings by Hyde, Abbey, Fullerton, Deirdre, Lohan, Maria, McKeown, Caroline, Dunne, Laura and Macdonald, Geraldine (March 2016)

The aim of this report is to bring together the findings from the five standalone reports comprising the SENYPIC programme of research in one succinct report. This report contains a summary of the overall research programme, including aim, objectives and methodological approach (Section 1), followed by a summary of the component-specific objectives, methodologies and findings of each constituent report (Sections 2 – 6). Towards the end of this report, a synthesis of the findings across individual reports is presented. In integrating the overall findings, particular attention is given to shared perspectives on the sexual healthcare and RSE needs of YPIC that emerged in data across the participant groups sampled. In addition, those areas where there was less congruence in terms of needs' identification or where the emphasis from one group to the other varies is highlighted. The report closes with key findings from the SENYPIC programme of research and a set of actions for delivery agreed by the HSE Crisis Pregnancy Programme and the Child & Family Agency (Tusla).

Link to the report: <http://www.lenus.ie/hse/bitstream/10147/611387/1/SENYPIC.pdf>

New publications and policy reports

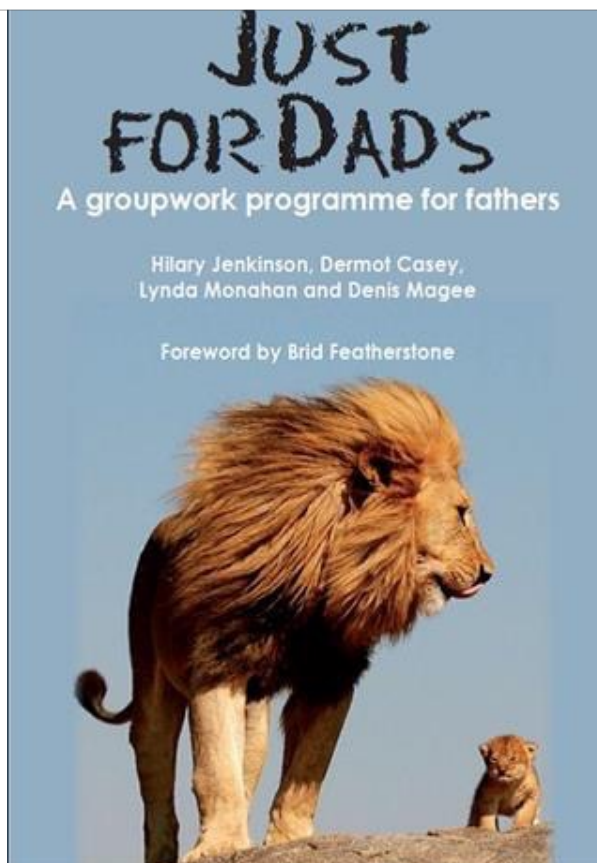
Just for Dads

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to announce that *Just for Dads: a groupwork programme for fathers* has been published and is now available online. *Just for Dads* is aimed at engaging with fathers around developing relationships with their children and was conceived out of an awareness gained through practice, research and experience of the limitations and challenges of effectively engaging men in family services. It consists of a ten week groupwork programme which highlights how important dads are to their children's development and provides opportunities for men to explore and develop their fathering role in a supportive, non-judgemental environment. *Just for Dads* has been developed out of a collaboration between Springboard Family Support Project, Knocknaheeny/Farranree, in Cork and the School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork.

Check it out [here](#)

Link to the report: https://cora.ucc.ie/bitstream/handle/10468/2459/HJ_JustPV2016.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y



Abstract

Background

Discharge planning is a routine feature of health systems in many countries. The aim of discharge planning is to reduce hospital length of stay and unplanned readmission to hospital, and to improve the co-ordination of services following discharge from hospital. This is the third update of the original review.

Objectives

To assess the effectiveness of planning the discharge of individual patients moving from hospital.

Search methods

We updated the review using the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (2015, Issue 9), MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, the Social Science Citation Index (last searched in October 2015), and the US National Institutes of Health trial register (ClinicalTrials.gov).

Selection criteria

Randomised controlled trials (RCTs) that compared an individualised discharge plan with routine discharge care that was not tailored to individual participants. Participants were hospital inpatients.

Data collection and analysis

Two authors independently undertook data analysis and quality assessment using a pre-designed data extraction sheet. We grouped studies according to patient groups (elderly medical patients, patients recovering from surgery, and those with a mix of conditions) and by outcome. We performed our statistical analysis according to the intention-to-treat principle, calculating risk ratios (RRs) for dichotomous outcomes and mean differences (MDs) for continuous data using fixed-effect meta-analysis. When combining outcome data was not possible because of differences in the reporting of outcomes, we summarised the reported data in the text.

Main results

We included 30 trials (11,964 participants), including six identified in this update. Twenty-one trials recruited older participants with a medical condition, five recruited participants with a mix of medical and surgical conditions, one recruited participants from a psychiatric hospital, one from both a psychiatric hospital and from a general hospital, and two trials recruited participants admitted to hospital following a fall. Hospital length of stay and readmissions to hospital were reduced for participants admitted to hospital with a medical diagnosis and who were allocated to discharge planning (length of stay MD - 0.73, 95% CI - 1.33 to - 0.12, 12 trials, moderate certainty evidence; readmission rates RR 0.87, 95% CI 0.79 to 0.97, 15 trials, moderate certainty evidence). It is uncertain whether discharge planning reduces readmission rates for patients admitted to hospital following a fall (RR 1.36, 95% CI 0.46 to 4.01, 2 trials, very low certainty evidence). For elderly patients with a medical condition, there was little or no difference between groups for mortality (RR 0.99, 95% CI 0.79 to 1.24, moderate certainty). There was also little evidence regarding mortality for participants recovering from surgery or who had a mix of medical and surgical conditions. Discharge planning may lead to increased satisfaction for patients and healthcare professionals (low certainty evidence, six trials). It is uncertain whether there is any difference in the cost of care when discharge planning is implemented with patients who have a medical condition (very low certainty evidence, five trials).

by Goncalves-Bradley, D., Lannin, N., Clemson, L., Cameron, I. and Sheppard, S., (January 2016)



Authors' conclusions

A discharge plan tailored to the individual patient probably brings about a small reduction in hospital length of stay and reduces the risk of readmission to hospital at three months follow-up for older people with a medical condition. Discharge planning may lead to increased satisfaction with healthcare for patients and professionals. There is little evidence that discharge planning reduces costs to the health service. Plain language summary

Discharge planning from hospital

Background

Discharge planning is the development of a personalised plan for each patient who is leaving hospital, with the aim of containing costs and improving patient outcomes. Discharge planning should ensure that patients leave hospital at an appropriate time in their care and that, with adequate notice, the provision of post-discharge services will be organised.

Objectives

We systematically searched for trials to see the effect of developing personalised plans for patients leaving the hospital. This is the third update of the original review.

Main results

We found 30 trials that compared personalised discharge plans versus standard discharge care. Twenty of those studies included older adults.

Authors' conclusions

This review indicates that a personalised discharge plan probably brings about a small reduction in hospital length of stay (mean difference – 0.73 days) and readmission rates for elderly patients who were admitted to hospital with a medical condition, and may increase patient satisfaction. It may also increase professionals' satisfaction, though there is little evidence to support this. It is not clear if discharge planning reduces costs to the health services.

Link to review: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD000313.pub5/full>

Juvenile Curfew Effects on Criminal Behavior and Victimization: A Systematic Review

by David Wilson, Charlotte Gill, Ajima Olaghere, Dave McClure (March 2016)



BACKGROUND

A juvenile curfew has a common sense appeal: keep youth at home during the late night and early morning hours and you will prevent them from committing a crime or being a victim of a crime. This common sense appeal has led to the popularity of curfews, at least within the United States and Iceland. However, prior reviews have questioned the effectiveness of curfews.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of this review was to synthesize the evidence on the effectiveness of juvenile curfews in reducing criminal behavior and victimization among youth.

SEARCH METHODS

The systematic search was conducted between January 20, 2014 and March 5, 2014. The search strategy yielded 7,349 titles and abstracts. The initial screening identified 100 of these as potentially relevant and in need of a full text review for study eligibility. Fifteen documents representing 12 unique studies were eligible and coded.

SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible, a study must have tested the effect of an official state or local policy intended to restrict or otherwise penalize a juvenile's presence outside the home during certain times of day. This must have been a general preventive measure directed at all youth within a certain age range and not a sanction imposed on a specific youth. All quantitative research designs were eligible. An eligible study must have assessed the effect of a curfew on either juvenile criminal behavior or juvenile victimization. The manuscript, published or unpublished, must have been written in English and reported on data collected after 1959.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The typical evaluation design of an eligible study was a variant on an interrupted time-series. To accommodate these designs, the effect size used in this synthesis was the percent change in the crime or victimization rate during the period of time with a curfew relative to a baseline period, adjusting for any overall linear time trend. The outcomes of interest included crime and victimization, which were categorized by time of day (curfew hours, non-curfew hours, or all hours) and offender or victim age (juvenile or adult). The effects during non-curfew hours and the effects for adults served as control outcomes; that is, outcomes that should be unaffected by a curfew.

RESULTS

The pattern of evidence suggests that juvenile curfews are ineffective at reducing crime and victimization. The mean effect size for juvenile crime during curfew hours was slightly positive (reflecting a slight increase in crime), whereas it was essentially zero for crime during all hours. Both effects were nonsignificant. Similarly, juvenile victimization also appeared unaffected by the imposition of a curfew ordinance.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

The evidence suggests that juvenile curfews are ineffective at reducing crime or victimization. This is not, however, a conclusive finding. The observational nature of the research designs creates potential sources of bias, and as such the findings need additional replication. However, many of the most plausible biases should have increased the likelihood of finding an effect. In particular, most of the studies reviewed were conducted during a time period when crime was decreasing throughout the United States. Thus, it appears that juvenile curfews either have no effect on crime and victimization or the effect is too small to be reliably detected with available data.

Link to review: <http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/lib/project/154/>

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Campbell Collaboration

The Campbell Collaboration (C2) helps people make well-informed decisions by preparing, maintaining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, and social welfare. Access to the database in the Republic of Ireland is free as the government of Ireland has purchased a license. <http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/>

Cochrane Collaboration

The Cochrane Collaboration, established in 1993, is an international network of more than 28,000 dedicated people from over 100 countries. We work together to help health care providers, policy makers, patients, their advocates and carers, make well-informed decisions about health care, based on the best available research evidence, by preparing, updating and promoting the accessibility of [Cochrane Reviews](#). Our work is internationally recognised as the benchmark for high quality information about the [effectiveness](#) of health care. <http://www.cochrane.org/>

Practice signposts are permanent pages that will appear in every edition of *Practice Links*. The aim of these pages is to provide signposts to high quality, research-informed databases. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but also contain great resources to support social work and social care practice also.

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) - NHS UK

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance, sets quality standards and manages a national database to improve people's health and prevent and treat ill health. <http://www.nice.org.uk/> . Videocasts: <http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/videocasts/videocasts.jsp>. Podcasts: <http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/podcasts/index.jsp>

Health Intelligence Unit (HSE)

Health Intelligence is part of the Quality and Clinical Care Directorate within the Health Service Executive and is responsible for capturing and utilising knowledge to support decision-making to improve the health of the population. Website has links to HSE research, databases, facts (census etc.), publications and using evidence effectively. <http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/PopulationHealth/HealthIntelligence/>

Evidence in Health and Social Care (NHS)

NHS Evidence is a service that enables access to authoritative clinical and non-clinical evidence and best practice through a web-based portal. It helps people from across the NHS, public health and social care sectors to make better decisions as a result. NHS Evidence is managed by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). <http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/>

HRB National Drugs Library

The HRB National Drugs Library is an information resource that supports those working to develop the knowledge base around drug, alcohol and tobacco use in Ireland. The library is funded by the Department of Health, and based within the Health Research Board. We have a range of services and resources designed to provide the evidence needed for practice and CPD. In particular, see the social worker page on our online practitioner resource.

<http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/>

Drugs.ie

Drugs.ie is an independent website managed by [The Ana Liffey Drug Project](#). Drugs.ie's mission is to help individuals, families and communities prevent and/or address problems arising from drug and alcohol use.

<http://www.drugs.ie/>

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works. We are an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK. We also work closely with related services such as health care and housing. We gather and analyse knowledge about what works and translate that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. Our work helps to improve the knowledge and skills of those working in care services. This includes managers, frontline staff, commissioners and trainers. People and their families who use these services also use our resources. All of our work is developed in collaboration with experts - including people who use care services and their carers. <http://www.scie.org.uk/>

Decision Map.ie

DecisionMap.ie, the new online decision-support tool developed by Ordnance Survey Ireland and Twelve Horses. DecisionMap, currently in beta test release, combines digital mapping from Ordnance Survey Ireland, with visualisation and web delivery tools developed by Twelve Horses, and statistical data provided by the Central Statistics Office and others. It aims to provide decision makers in the public and private sectors instant access to easily-consumable, spatially-referenced data about Ireland. <http://decisionmap.ie/>

Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland is a national study of children. It is the most significant of its kind ever to take place in this country and will help us to improve our understanding of all aspects of children and their development.

The study will take place over seven years and follow the progress of two groups of children; 8500 nine-year-olds and 11,000 nine-month-olds. During this time we will carry out two rounds of research with each group of children.

The main aim of the study is to paint a full picture of children in Ireland and how they are developing in the current social, economic and cultural environment. This information will be used to assist in policy formation and in the provision of services which will ensure all children will have the best possible start in life.

<http://www.growingup.ie/>

Irish Qualitative Data Archive

The Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA) is a central access point for qualitative social science data and provides online access to all new qualitative data generated within the [Irish Social Science Platform](#), and to selected existing data. <http://www.iqda.ie/content/welcome-iqda>

North South Child Protection Hub

This hub available for use by child protection professionals (policy makers, practitioners, researchers and educators) in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The Hub brings together research, policy and practice guidance, inspection reports, serious case reviews, court judgements, news articles and other material relevant to child protection published in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland together with material from Great Britain and other countries. Staff in the Health and Social Care Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland and in the Health Service Executive in the Republic of Ireland, will have access to the Hub but it will also be an important resource for all organisations concerned with child protection. <http://www.nscph.com/>

RIAN - Irish Open Access Research Archive (free)

RIAN is the outcome of a sectoral higher education project supported by the Irish Government's 'Strategic Innovation Fund'. Project planning was carried out by the seven Irish university libraries, [DCU](#), [NUIG](#), [NUIM](#), [TCD](#), [UCC](#), [UCD](#), [UL](#) and was supported by the [Irish Universities Association \(IUA\)](#). The project aim is to harvest to one portal the contents of the Institutional Repositories of the seven university libraries, in order to make Irish research material more freely accessible, and to increase the research profiles of individual researchers and their institutions. It is intended to extend the harvest to other Irish research institutions as RIAN develops.

<http://rian.ie/en>

@PracticeLinks

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Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Resource on Marijuana

Marijuana LIT is a source of fact based information to assist professionals in providing accurate information to those affected by the use of cannabis. There are lots of confusing messages regarding the use of cannabis, the harm it causes and whether it should be legalised or not. This makes it difficult sometimes to determine facts from urban myth or popular opinion. The Addiction Technology Transfer Centre Network Co-ordinating Office in the United States has a user friendly package of resources to assist those who provide services to substance users. It has information and infographics on how cannabis affects the body, using cannabis while pregnant and the potential complications for unborn children and newborns and how cannabis impacts on young people and families. Dr. Thomas E. Freese explains in-depth what is meant by “Medical Marijuana Use”. Who uses it and why, and the difference between medical marijuana and Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) medications. He also discusses the legal issues around the debate on the legal use of marijuana. <http://attcnetwork.org/marijuana/index.aspx#infographic>

The DCYA Children's Participation Hub Database

The DCYA Children's Participation Hub Database is now online. Please click on this link: <http://www.dcy.gov.ie/Participation-Database/default.asp> . The database includes a wide range of national and international practice and research publications and articles on children and young people's participation in decision-making. This database is the first stage of development of the Children and Young People's Participation Hub, which is one of the key actions for DCYA under the *National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making* (2015-2020).

The Hub will become the national centre for excellence on children and young people's participation in decision-making and will be fully functioning by the end of 2016. The Hub will support implementation of the strategy through the provision of information, training and advice for Government departments and agencies and the non-statutory sector. The database was developed on behalf of the DCYA by the Child Law Clinic, University College Cork.

HRB National Drugs Library

HRB National drugs library resource for social workers and social care workers



The HRB National Drugs Library is an information resource that supports those working to develop the knowledge base around drug, alcohol and tobacco use in Ireland. The library is funded by the Department of Health, and based within the Health Research Board. We have a range of services and resources designed to provide the evidence needed for practice and CPD. In particular, see the social worker page on our online practitioner resource.

<http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/>

You can view Irish and international research and policy material on legal and illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Because these issues affect so many aspects of daily life, we also have publications on related subjects such as poverty, suicide, prisons, homelessness, social care, and health.

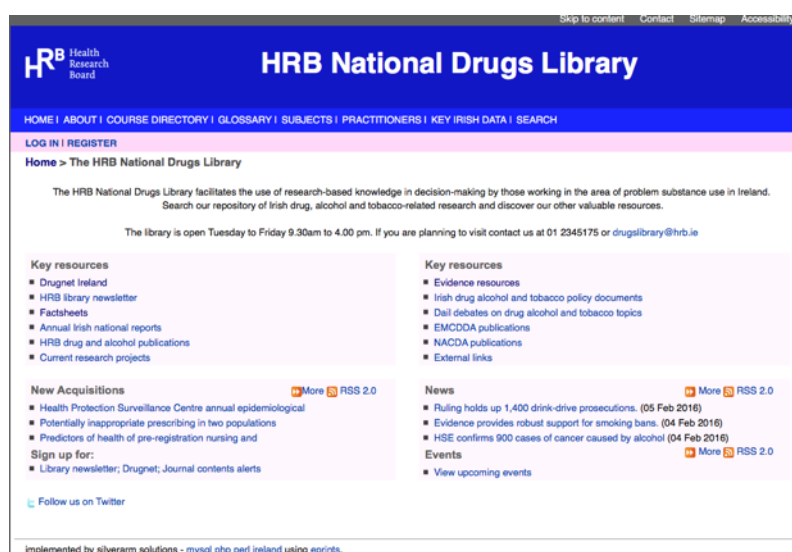
Every year we add hundreds of new articles and reports to our library collection. In order to help relieve information overload we have a number of summarised aids, such as Drugnet Ireland, NDC newsletter, and factsheets.

We recognise that those working in health and social care need access to research in a way that suits your busy work life. In order to facilitate this, the NDC librarians, with the wonderful help of advisors working in the social work and social care work areas, have developed a 'practitioner' resource. The homepage <http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/practitioners> has links to a number of subject areas. The 'key Irish data' link and those on the bottom row are relevant to most workers. Clicking on a link will show you recent Irish and international articles and reports on that subject.

We have also developed pages for specific professions including social workers and social care workers. Each of these pages list key documents and have links to subjects of particular interest to that profession.

The resource includes a page called 'doing research' which has links to useful online tools providing help on finding and using information for research. We are interested in collecting and making available local Irish drug or alcohol research done by those working in the area. If you are doing any such research, even a small piece in their organisation, you can submit it to us.

We would like to express a special word of thanks to all of those who helped with the design of the resource. We welcome ongoing feedback with recommendations for key documents, subject areas and anything else workers would like to see in your resource.



CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

Are you a member of a community group,
voluntary organisation, resident's association,
NGO?

Do you need a small piece of research done,
but don't have enough money or resources to

What is this about?

Community-Academic Research Links (CARL) invites non-profit voluntary or community organisations to suggest potential research topics that are important to them and could be *collaboratively* worked on with students as part of their course work. CARL is an initiative in UCC and follows a 30-year European tradition with similar initiatives on-going in some of the highest ranked Universities in Europe. CARL has produced impressive and important pieces of research that have generated interest outside the university walls and the project reports have even had an impact at government policy level.

We are seeking expressions of interest from groups who have ideas for a research project and would like to collaborate on their research idea with a UCC student.

How does it work?

As part of their academic course, students undertake a minor dissertation (between 10,000-30,000 words). In past years, students designed their own study and then contacted groups for permission to collect data. These projects serve to develop the research skills of the students; however, the research may not always answer the needs of community and voluntary groups.

In the CARL model, the students undertake their studies, learn about research methods, data collection, ethics, literature reviews as usual; however, the major difference is that the research projects undertaken are explicitly *studies of issues identified by the community*. These are studies/research which the community identifies as important and need to be undertaken, but they cannot pay for it and/or do not have the expertise themselves to undertake the study at this time.

How long does this take?

The typical time-scale for projects would be a) proposals submitted by groups, b) review of proposals by the CARL advisory group (comprised of UCC staff, students and representatives from the community and voluntary sector) to see which proposals are sufficiently developed and feasible for a student to undertake, and c) students begin their research in May or October.

Projects must be small enough to be completed within the academic year, roughly 9-12 months. Large research projects which require longer than a year to complete may be broken up into one or more smaller one-year projects for multiple students.

Where can I get more information and read sample reports?

Please visit our website to watch brief videos about CARL, to find out what it is like to participate <http://www.ucc.ie/en/scishop/>, or to read past research project reports <http://www.ucc.ie/en/scishop/rr/>

Does it matter what the research topic is about?

Topics that are connected to any discipline at UCC are welcome (science, maths, engineering, social sciences, arts, humanities, business, law, etc.)

What if we have already completed a research project with CARL?

Community groups that are currently involved, or previously completed a project, are welcome to apply again.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Before you make contact ...

1. Is your proposed project small enough to be undertaken as part of a student project?
2. Does your group come under the definition of a not-for-profit community and voluntary group?
3. Do you have a clear idea for a research project that, if undertaken, will have a wider benefit to society?
4. Read some completed research reports on our website.
5. Groups that have funding should consider commissioning research, rather than applying to CARL.
6. Contact Anna to discuss your idea further and to receive a copy of the application form.
7. We are accepting proposals all year round.

CONTACT US

Anna Kingston a.kingston@ucc.ie /



Videos

The School of Life

The School of Life is a global organisation devoted to emotional education that asks the sort of questions rarely taught in school or college, such as:

- How can relationships go well?
- What is meaningful work?
- How can love last?
- How can one find calm?
- What's gone wrong (and right) with capitalism?

The School of Life's You Tube channel has recently grown to over one million subscribers, a testament to the excellent short films it broadcasts each week that focus on thought-provoking ideas within the humanities, especially philosophy, psychotherapy, literature and art.

[The School of Life channel](#)

Social Entrepreneurs Ireland (SEI) Impact Series

The idea behind the SEI's Impact initiative is to award social entrepreneurs who come up with a great new solution to a particular social problem, with the funding and support that they need to scale and grow, ultimately impacting as many people as possible, as quickly as possible.

This Impact Series focused on the theme '**Unlocking a positive future for offenders**' and took place on Thursday 19th May 2016 in Smock Alley Theatre. It was an event that shone a light on individuals pioneering innovative solutions to build a more inclusive society; one that is focused on creating positive outcomes for those with offending behaviours. The following links are highlights from this inspiring event:

[The Impact Series: 'Unlocking a positive future for offenders' Highlights Video](#)

[Noeline Blackwell, human rights lawyer and CEO Dublin Rape Crisis Centre](#)

[John Lonergan, Former Governor, Mountjoy Prison](#)

Surviving Domestic Violence

Leslie Morgan Steiner's memoir about surviving domestic violence, *Crazy Love*, was a New York Times bestseller. In this TEDx Talk she asks her audience to consider the secrets of domestic violence through her own traumatic experiences from which she eventually found the power to break the secrecy and silence.

[TEDx Talk – Leslie Morgan Steiner: Living through crazy love](#)

Community Engagement and Community Based Research

<http://www.irishtv.ie/category/ireland/munster/cork>

Click on **Cork Matters 87**

Podcasts

Podcasts

The Social Work Podcast

With 103 podcasts to date, the Social Work Podcast provides information on all things social work, including direct practice, research, policy and education. Despite being an American site, it is still highly relevant and informative for Irish social work practice.

[Podcast 102](#) takes an insightful look at the complexities of parenting teenage girls with Dr. Lisa Damour, psychotherapist, researcher, professor, parent and writer of the [Adolescence column for the New York Times' Motherlode blog](#).

As the author of a new book titled, *Untangled: Guiding teenage girls through the seven transitions into adulthood*, this podcast covers the many issues affecting teenage girls, such as sex, the internet and eating disorders and would be beneficial to all allied health professionals who work with children and families.

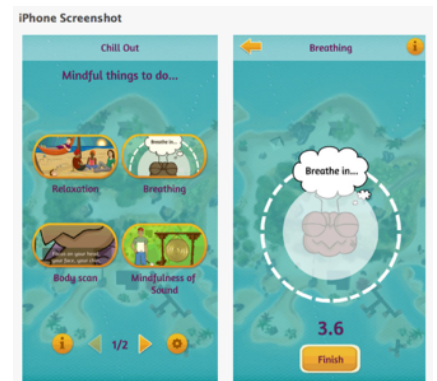
[The Social Work Podcast](#)

Mindful Gnats

Mindful Gnats is an app designed to teach young people simple mindfulness and relaxation skills and was developed in Ireland by Dr Gary O'Reilly (UCD School of Psychology) and Dr David Coyle (UCD School of Computer Science). Carol Somers, a Masters Student of Applied Psychology in UCC, is utilising the Mindful Gnats app to investigate how the introduction of mindfulness impacts on the wellbeing of primary school-going children. The results of this ongoing research so far, according to Carol, look promising.

The app is free and available on iTunes here:

[Mindful Gnats App](#)



A sample of the plethora of other mindfulness apps, both for children:

[Breathe, Think, Do with Sesame for Android](#)

[Breathe, Think, Do with Sesame for iOS](#)

[Settle Your Glitter for Android](#)

[Settle Your glitter for iOS](#)

And for adults:

[Headspace – Meditation for Android](#)

[Headspace – Meditation for iOS](#)

[Smiling Mind for Android](#)

[Smiling Mind for iOS](#)

[Stop, Breathe and Think for Android](#)

[Stop, Breathe and Think for iOS](#)

New App for drug and alcohol professionals in Northern Ireland and also useful for professionals in the Republic of Ireland

A mobile app that provides resources on the theory, practice and legislation related to drugs and alcohol is now available to download for iPhones and other mobile devices.

The app, which was created by substance abuse charity ASCERT in conjunction with Queen's University Belfast also provides information on services available in Northern Ireland that address drug and alcohol issues.

This App provides an overview of the theories which underpin substance misuse, the relevant policy and legislation, the up-to-date drug and alcohol statistics for NI, the principles and values in working with substance misuse and a regularly updated directory of services via an easy to access regional map.

The App has been created to ensure ease of access for service users, people who use alcohol and / or drugs and who require updated information and also workers who are involved at all levels of drug and alcohol service provision.

- To download the app for iPhones [click here](#)
- For Android devices [click here](#)
- [Find out more by clicking here to visit the ASCERT website](#)

Change Talk App for Developing Motivational Interviewing Skills

Change Talk is an interactive, training simulation to help paediatricians and other health professionals learn motivational interviewing techniques to counsel families on childhood obesity. The skills are transferable into other areas of health and social care professions. In the training simulation, participants engage in a conversation with a mother and her son, using motivational interviewing skills to facilitate family behavioural change. Change Talk is an initiative of the AAP Institute for Healthy Childhood Weight and Kognito, a developer of online simulations.

After participating in this brief module, learners will

- understand the distinction between motivational interviewing and traditional counselling.
- develop competence regarding several key motivational interviewing strategies covered in this module (e.g., asking open-ended questions, reflective listening, agenda setting).

[Click Here to Download the app](#)

Keeping it Irish this month with a range of worthwhile Irish Twitter accounts to follow:

Social Work Action Network (SWAN) Ireland is a network of frontline workers, students, welfare recipients, academics and more united around concerns about attacks on our public services [@SWAN_IRL](#)

Social Science Ireland lists the online social research community on the island of Ireland and tweets about upcoming events, funding and opportunities [@socsire](#)

Mental Health Ireland provides positive [#mentalhealth](#) information and [#training](#) in Ireland
[@MentalHealthIrl](#)

Aodhan O'Cuana M.Sc (KCL), tweets on a range of topics within the psychosocial and medical spheres of social work, incl. Foucauldian discourse, Feminist Ethics and Homelessness
[@AodhanC](#)

The official account for the Psychological Society of Ireland's Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Special Interest Group can be accessed at [@Perinatal_SIG](#)

Irish Council for Civil Liberties is Ireland's independent human rights watchdog. Monitoring, educating & campaigning to secure full enjoyment of human rights for all [@ICCLtweet](#)

About Practice Links

Practice Links is a free e-publication for practitioners working in Irish social services, voluntary and non-governmental sectors. *Practice Links* was created to help practitioners in these areas to keep up-to-date with new publications, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file). Distribution is by email, Twitter and on the *Practice Links* website <http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/>.

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Submission for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to k.burns@ucc.ie.

SWDU

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